

## **WHAT IS YLF?**

The Youth Leadership Forum is a leadership and self-advocacy training for high school students with disabilities from across the state, sponsored by the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities.

## **WHAT WILL THE SELECTED STUDENTS DO?**

Attend sessions by local and national presenters on a variety of topics, including leadership, self-advocacy, planning for life after high school, employment, college resources for students with disabilities and the legislative process.

Students will also participate in:

- \*several small group discussions about their lives, hopes and dreams
- \*a photography workshop
- \*a drum circle
- \*a talent show
- \*a tour of the Capitol, including a conversation with a legislator

## **WHEN WILL THE FORUM TAKE PLACE?**

July 5-8, 2010

## **WHERE WILL IT TAKE PLACE?**

On the campus of Vanderbilt University.

## **WHERE WILL THE STUDENTS STAY?**

In an accessible dorm on Vanderbilt University campus.

## **WHAT DOES IT COST?**

There is no cost for the training, sleeping rooms or meals. Students or their families will be reimbursed for mileage to and from the Forum approximately two weeks after the event.

## **WHO CAN ATTEND?**

Rising tenth graders through those students that will graduate in 2010. **Students do not attend with family members.**

## **WHO WILL SUPERVISE THE FORUM?**

8-10 adult counselors and coordinating staff, mostly adults with disabilities themselves, family members of persons with disabilities and returning YLF graduates

## **HOW MANY STUDENTS WILL BE SELECTED?**

Twenty. An effort will be made to select a diverse group, based on type of disability, ethnicity, gender, school year and region of the state the student lives in.

## **HOW DOES A STUDENT APPLY?**

By completing the attached application, which includes essay questions and letters of recommendation. If the student cannot access the attached application, please contact Ned Andrew Solomon at 615.532.6556, or by e-mail at [ned.solomon@tn.gov](mailto:ned.solomon@tn.gov) for a mailed application.

## **WHAT IS THE DEADLINE FOR APPLYING?**

All applications must be postmarked by March 1, 2010

For any other information about the Forum, please contact Ned Andrew Solomon at 615.532.6556, or by e-mail at [ned.solomon@tn.gov](mailto:ned.solomon@tn.gov)